



SOUTHGATE past and present

(Volume 180)



3



Photo History



Cover Picture

This fantastic atmospheric cover photo is of the Southgate Nonedescript Bicycle Club taken in 1883 at The Ice Wells (More about that location follows)

I think this may well be the last of the volumes of photos of Southgate, old and new. I have attempted (admittedly, not very successfully) to keep them together in some sort of order and also to present old shots with recent shots from similar locations because I personally love to see how things have changed. Once again, I hope you will find these as interesting to look at as I had compiling them and also remember that many of these photos came from numerous sources and permissions have not been obtained so regrettably they are not for commercial use, but only to be shown to friends for enjoyment..

Ralph Dec'24

Not a very impressive view of the Southgate Leisure Centre alongside The Wells in December 2024.....



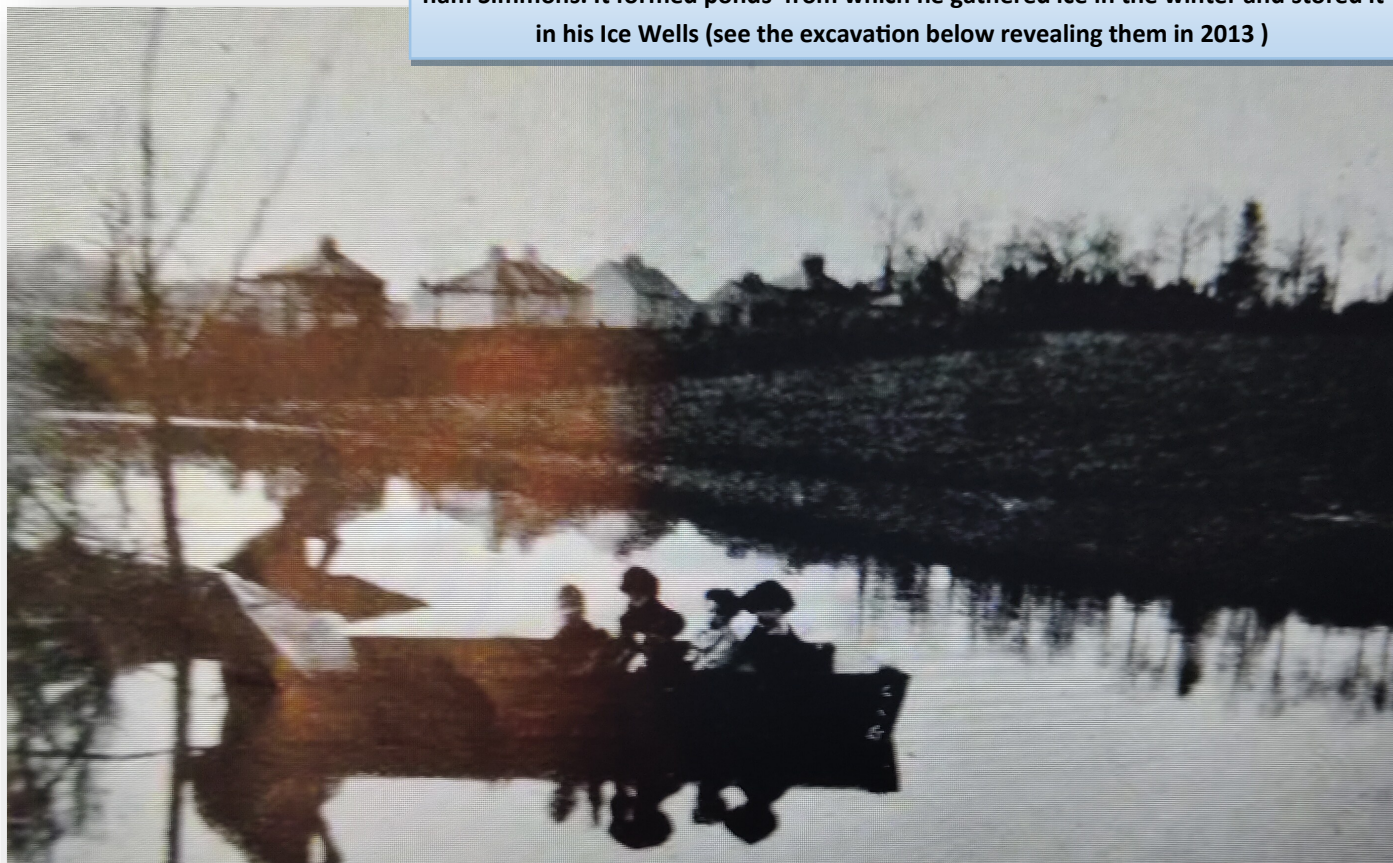
Adjacent to The Leisure Centre is a non-paved cul de sac called The Wells. Provident Cottages are on the right There is a plaque showing that the Ice wells previously on this site provided ice to London in the 19th century. Around 1800 Abraham Simmons set up his business then. And fishmongers gathered in the local ale house. Hence its name The Fishmongers Arms

....and this shot shows from 1931 (83 years earlier) shows the hoardings where Dennis Parade is now situated (in Winchmore Hill Road) and The Wells can be seen in the distance

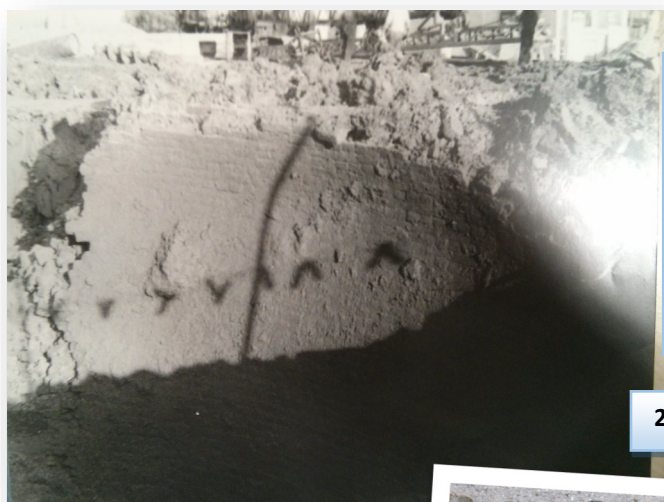




Around 1883 (nearly 140 years ago) a brook crossed Chase Road . This was called The Houndsden Gutter and it was dammed by a local fishmonger and Ice Merchant , Abraham Simmons. It formed ponds from which he gathered ice in the winter and stored it in his Ice Wells (see the excavation below revealing them in 2013)



The Ice wells were cylindrical underground brick chambers with a domed top , covered with soil with access via a narrow passage and a separate two door entry to ensure adequate insulation from outdoor temperature. Simmons built these to a much larger scale than Sugden's or Lipton's and the flooded areas in the depth of winter made huge quantities of ice available. They were thought to be 15-20ft deep . The capacity was for over 200 tons of ice and his horses and carts with blanket-covered ice was the main Billingsgate supplier



Aldridges Removal contractors took over the site which has since been redeveloped as flats.

2013



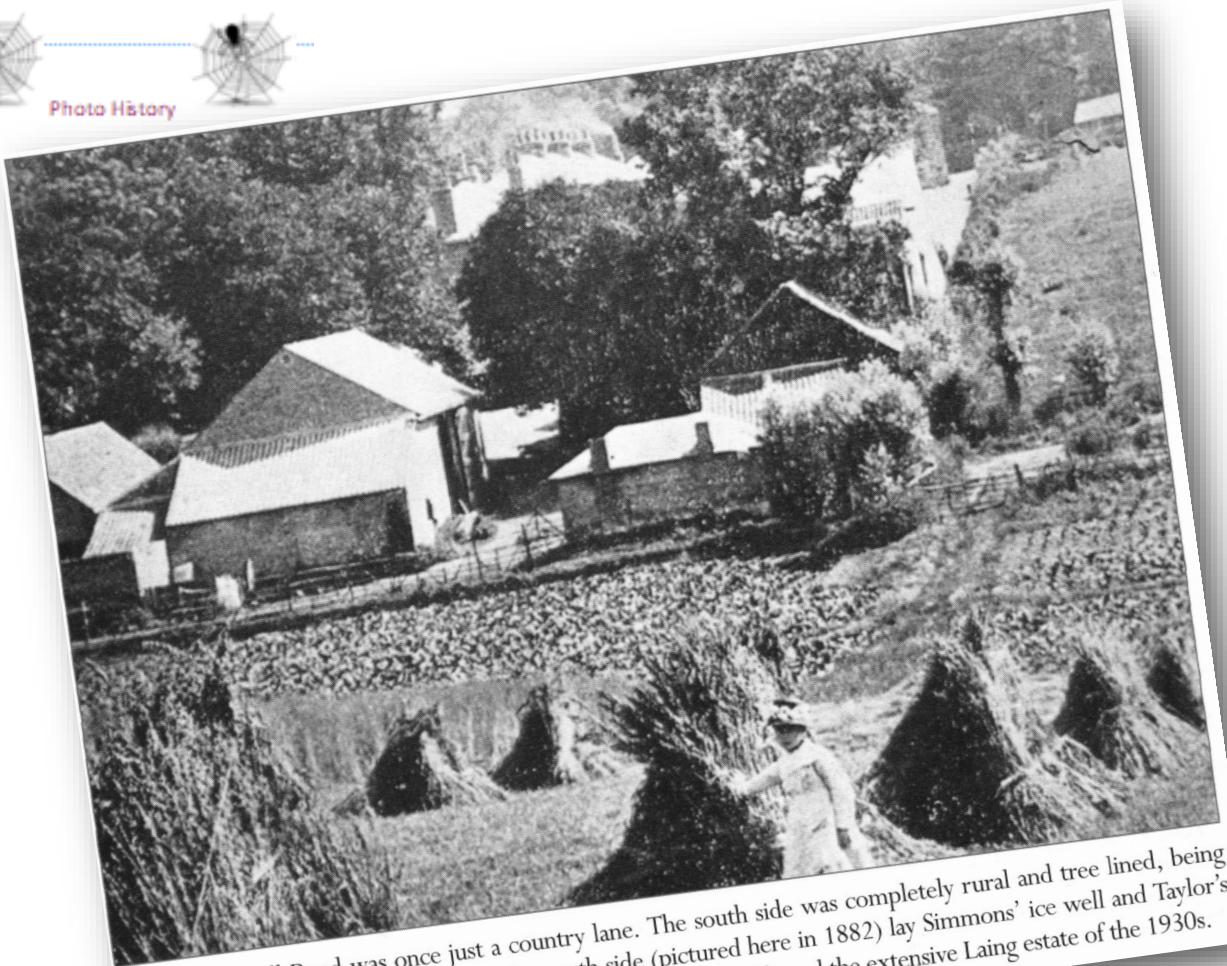
One of the wells



Part of the 1860 drain



£575,000 for a two bedroom cottage in The Wells in 2024



Winchmore Hill Road was once just a country lane. The south side was completely rural and tree lined, being part of Taylor's Grovelands estate. On the north side (pictured here in 1882) lay Simmons' ice well and Taylor's Home Farm, all later to be developed with the creation of The Vale and the extensive Laing estate of the 1930s.

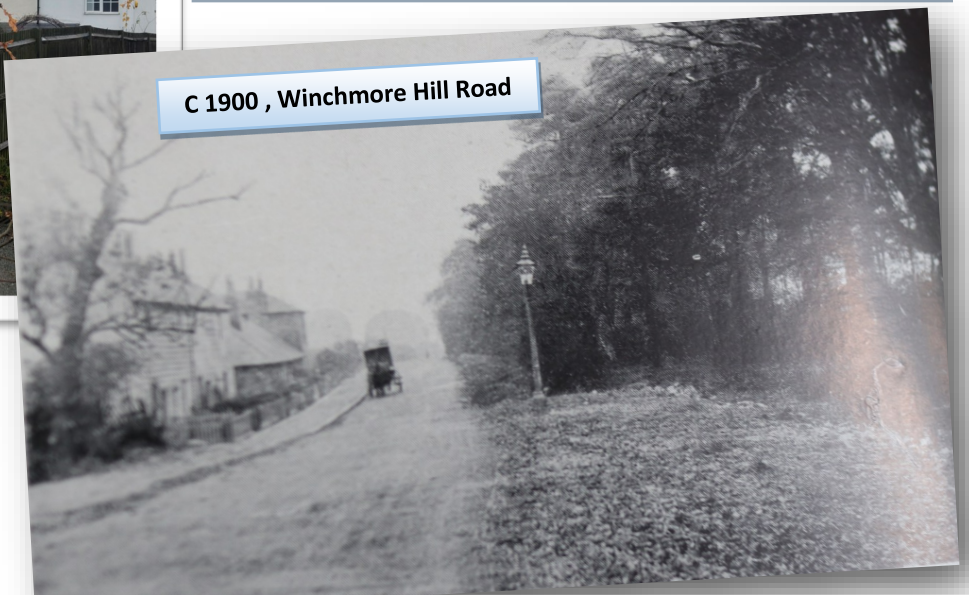
Home farm was still being farmed on Winchmore Hill Road prior to its sale. It comprised 150 acres on both sides of the road and this became Wynchgate and Queen Elizabeth's Drive

This shot below from 1882 (142 years ago) shows a country lane which is now Winchmore Hill Road. The south side was completely rural and tree-lined being part of Taylor's Grovelands Estate. Above is Simmon's ice well and Taylor's Home farm .



The Wells (which is now alongside the Southgate Leisure Centre). This is in December 2024

C 1900 , Winchmore Hill Road



Opposite The Wells was a a spring which fed into a small brick-lined pool where 'Blind Gudgeon' filled his barrel on wheels supplying local cottages with water for a penny a pail.



It's so great to see these photos that are approx. 130 years old



Members of The Southgate Cycling Club at a sports meeting on the Chapel fields in 1891



In 1883 Captain Wade was innkeeper at The Cherry Tree . It was the venue of horse charabanc outings, hiking and cycling clubs

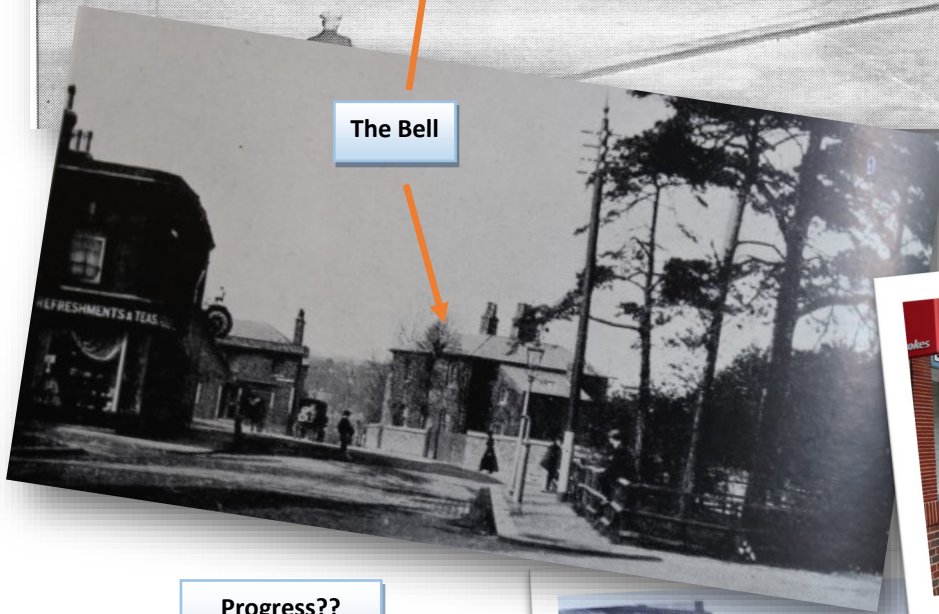


1931 (93 years ago) and Southgate Circus is being constructed in preparation of the tube's arrival.



Dennis Parade then...and more recently

The Bell



Progress??
(same location)



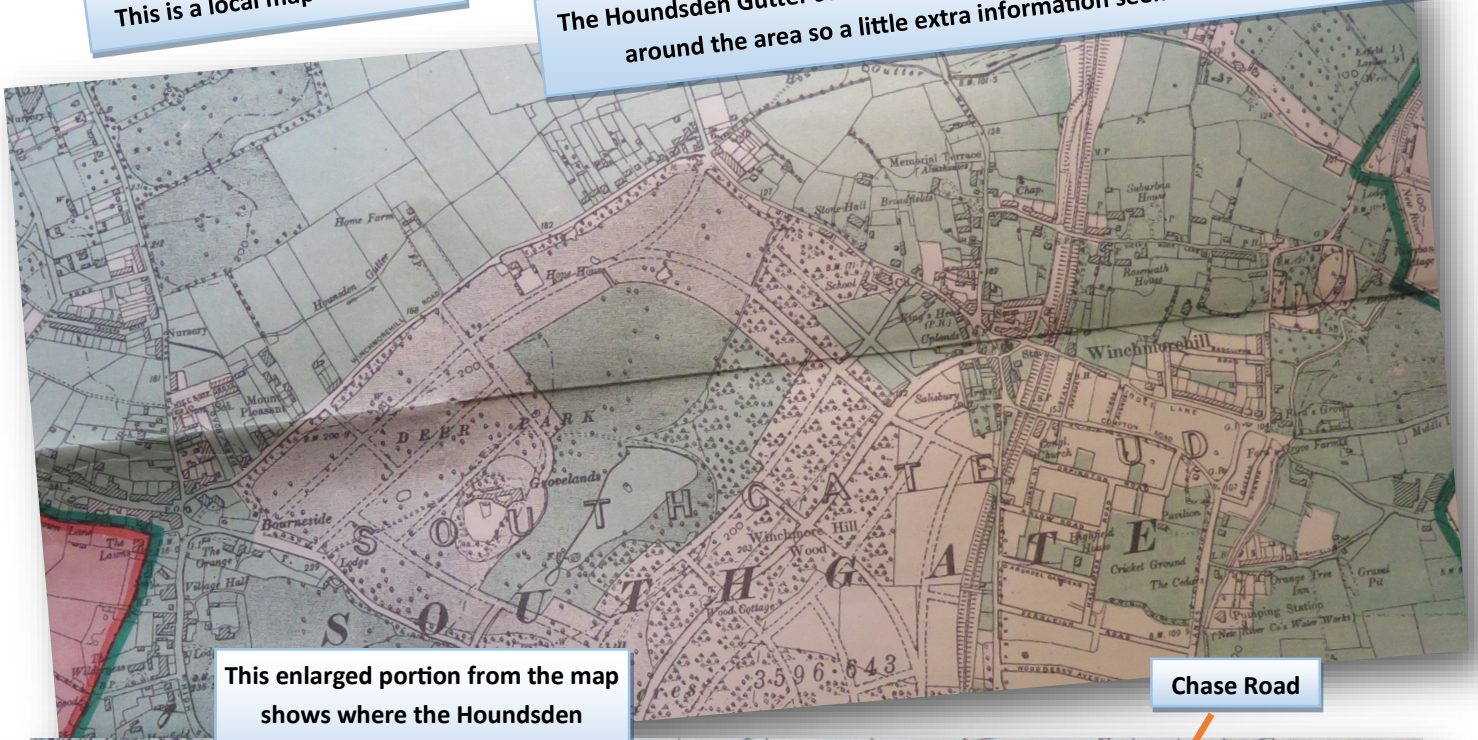
1987



2022

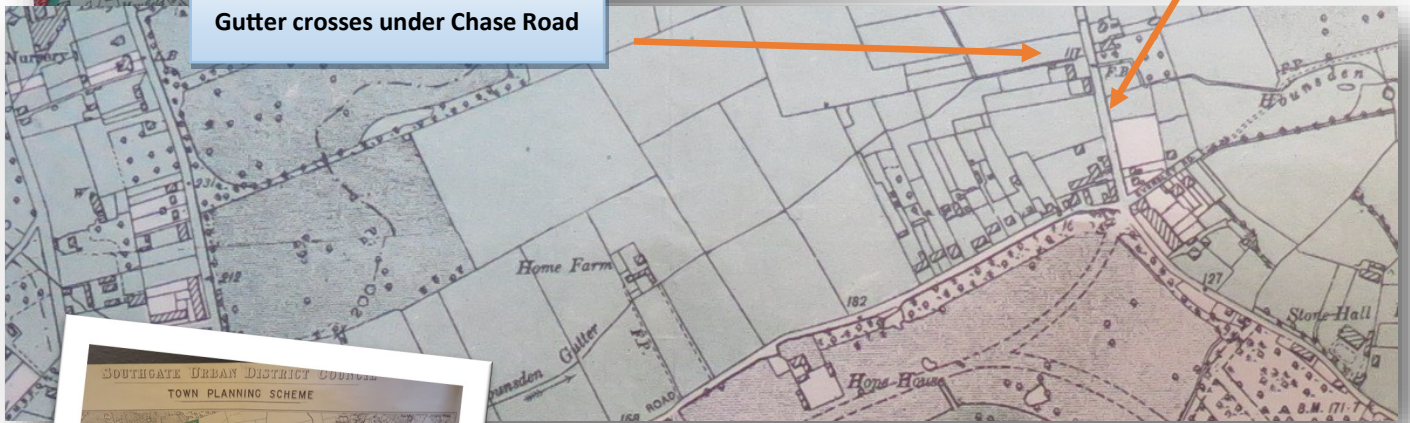
This is a local map from 1914

The Houndsden Gutter seems to be a long forgotten memory but it still exists around the area so a little extra information seems to be required

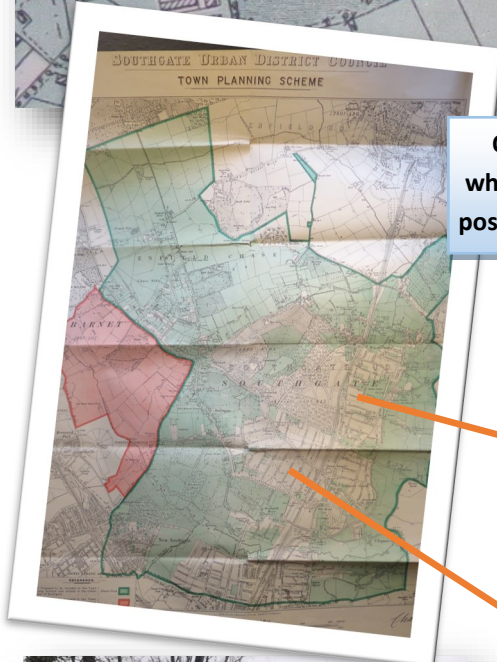


This enlarged portion from the map shows where the Houndsden Gutter crosses under Chase Road

Chase Road



Once one starts looking at old maps one sees the unexpected. I often wondered where the lake in Grovelands comes from and discovered an old picture of a lake opposite. Here, it is shown on the map and at the bottom of the page is the actual photo



The forgotten lake???





The Fishmonger's Arms in Winchmore Hill Road ...photos from over the years



The Old Chase Gate Tavern, in Chase Side was situated opposite the Southgate Club closed down in 1909. The landlord took over The Fishmonger's Arms in Winchmore Hill Road. (Close to The current Leisure Centre)

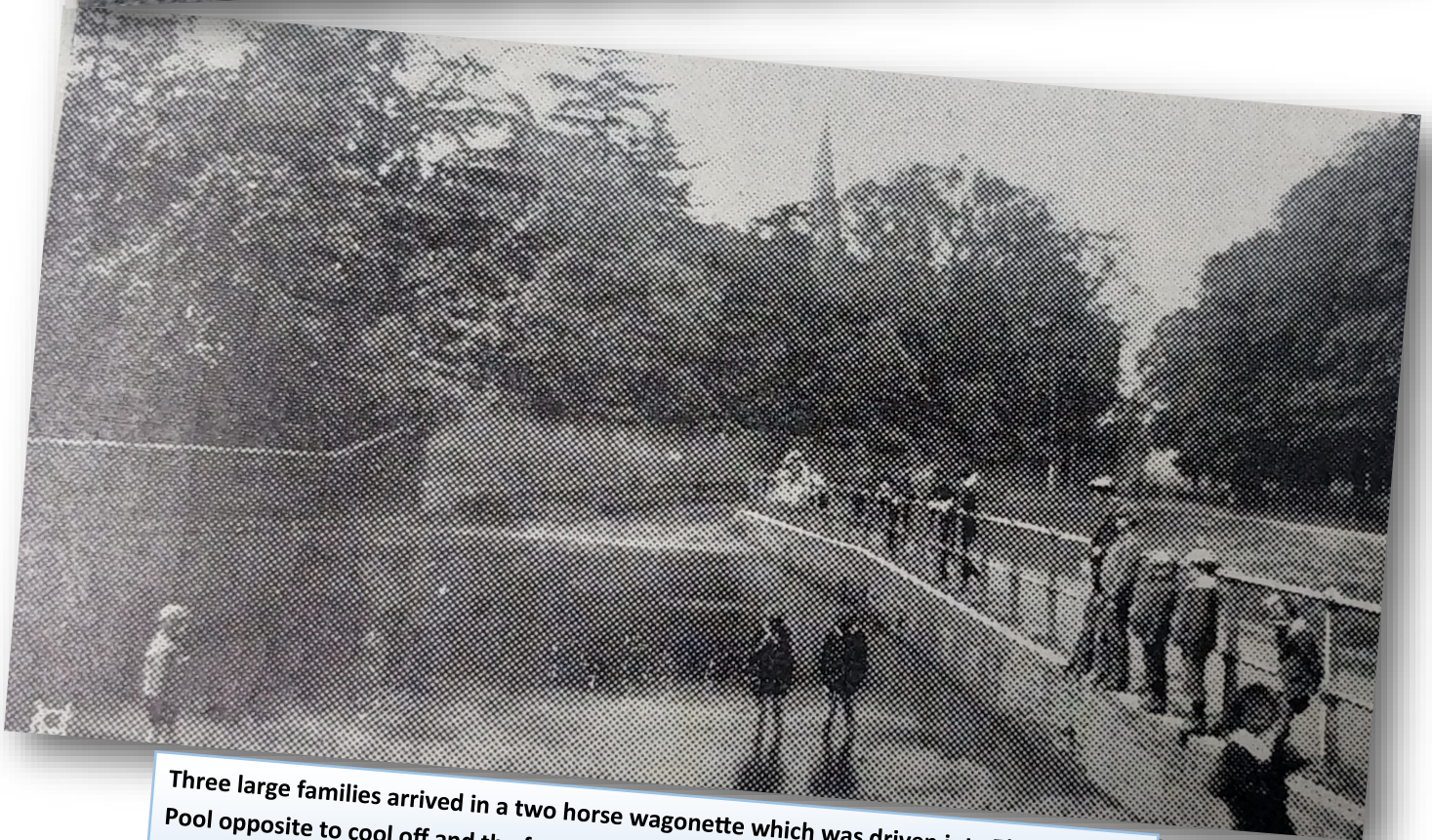


December 2024





The Woodman in 1905



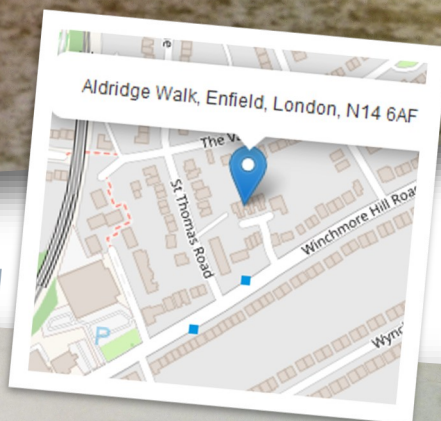
Three large families arrived in a two horse wagonette which was driven into The Duchesse Pool opposite to cool off and the families were stranded there for over two hours until the horses could be persuaded to come out

There was a footpath from The Green (by The Cherry Tree) through Cherry Tree Fields by The Village pound (now Fox Lane/Bourne Hill) through Winchmore Hill Woods (now Broad Walk) down to Station Road (Winchmore Hill & Fords Grove towards Edmonton)



It is hard to believe this was Southgate many years ago.

Aldridge's Yard



Aldridges was based at The Ice Wells in Wells Road



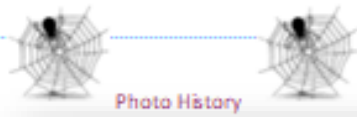


Photo History

This sign informs that the Methodist church will be built on this site



The Managing Director of Taylor Walker was John Bradshaw and lived at The Grange



The Bourne Methodist Church now stands on the site immediately left of this photo which shows The Lodge on the corner of Queen Elizabeth's Drive



2008



2024



2024

The name 'The Bourne' undoubtedly refers to the brook - small stream or burn or bourne) connecting the two ponds which prior to being filled in used to run in the valley at the foot of the hill



2017





The Grange

The Woodman Pub in Bourne Hill

**Fox Lane
(Then known
as Dog &
Duck Lane)**

Bourne Hill Reservoir

Southgate House

Deerpark

Grove lands

Clappers Green

On this page and on the next page, I have attempted to identify some current landmarks on this old map

1897 ordnance survey map extract





One of The Woolpacks many guises over the years



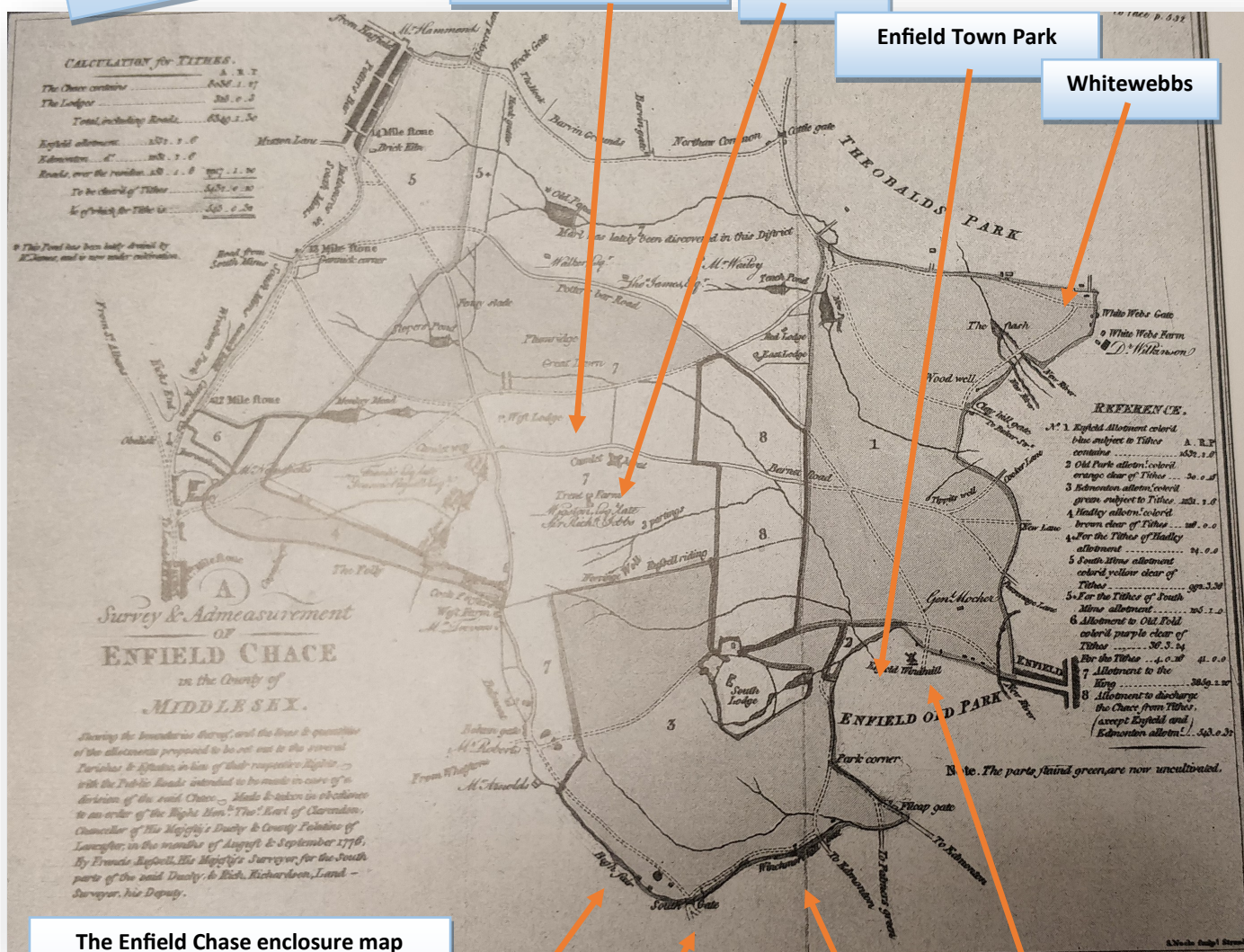
Chase Side, Southgate

West Lodge Park Hotel

Trent Park

Enfield Town Park

Whitewebbs



The Enfield Chase enclosure map

I found this fascinating and tried (I hope successfully) to identify some landmarks we might recognize today

As is quite apparent, north of Southgate (no 3 on this map) it was almost void of any habitation)

Southgate

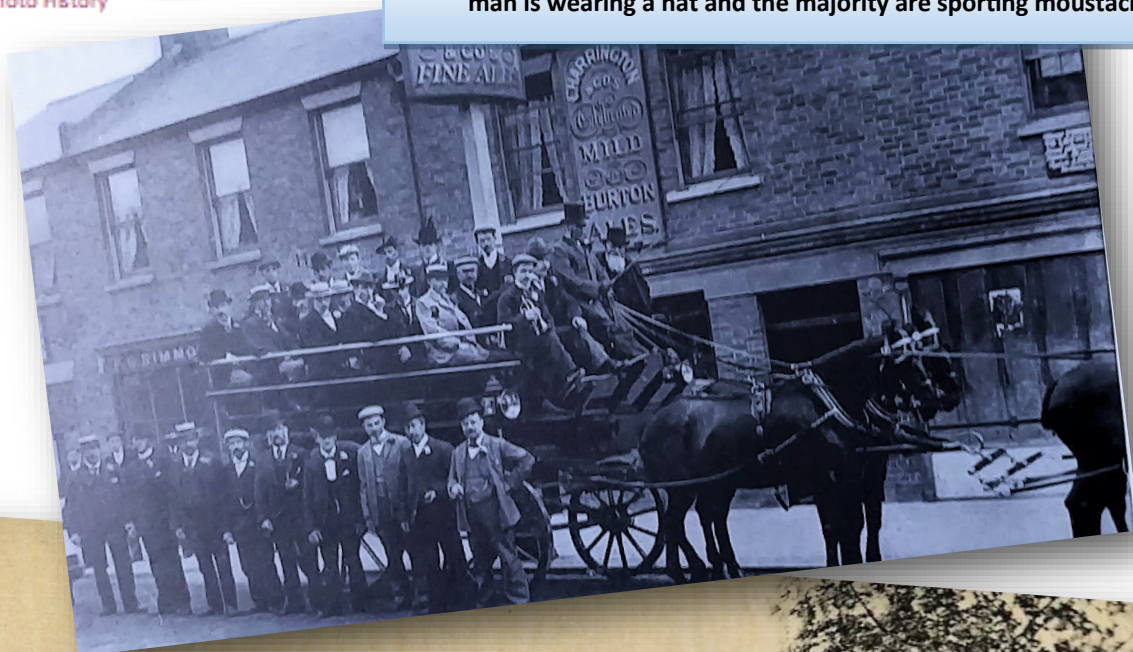
High Street

Winchmore Hill Road

Enfield Windmill (top of Windmill Hill)

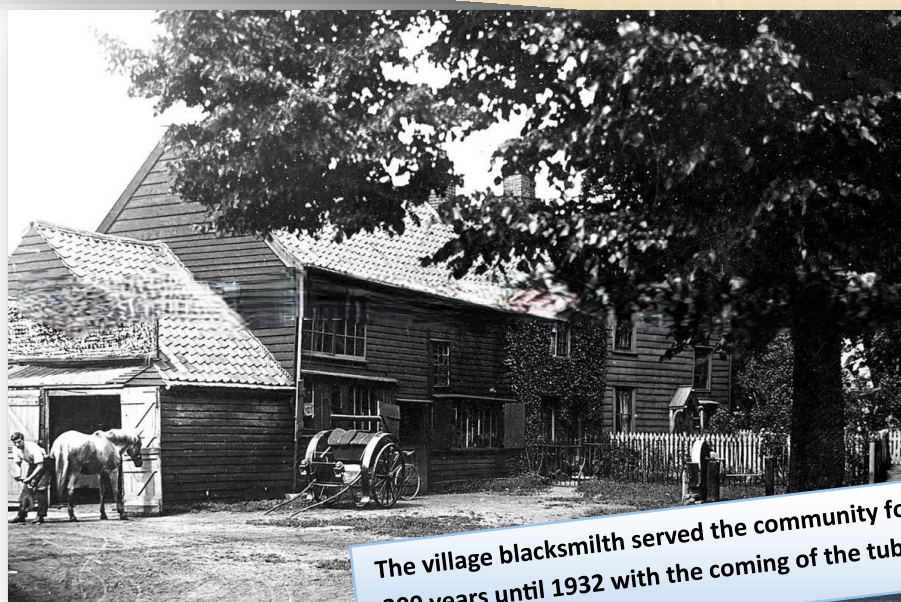


Southgate Village outing leaving The Chase Side tavern in 1901 (Notice every man is wearing a hat and the majority are sporting moustaches)



38. SURREYS TIMBER YARD HIGH STREET SOUTHGATE 1873

ENFIELD LIBRARIES



The village blacksmith served the community for 300 years until 1932 with the coming of the tube

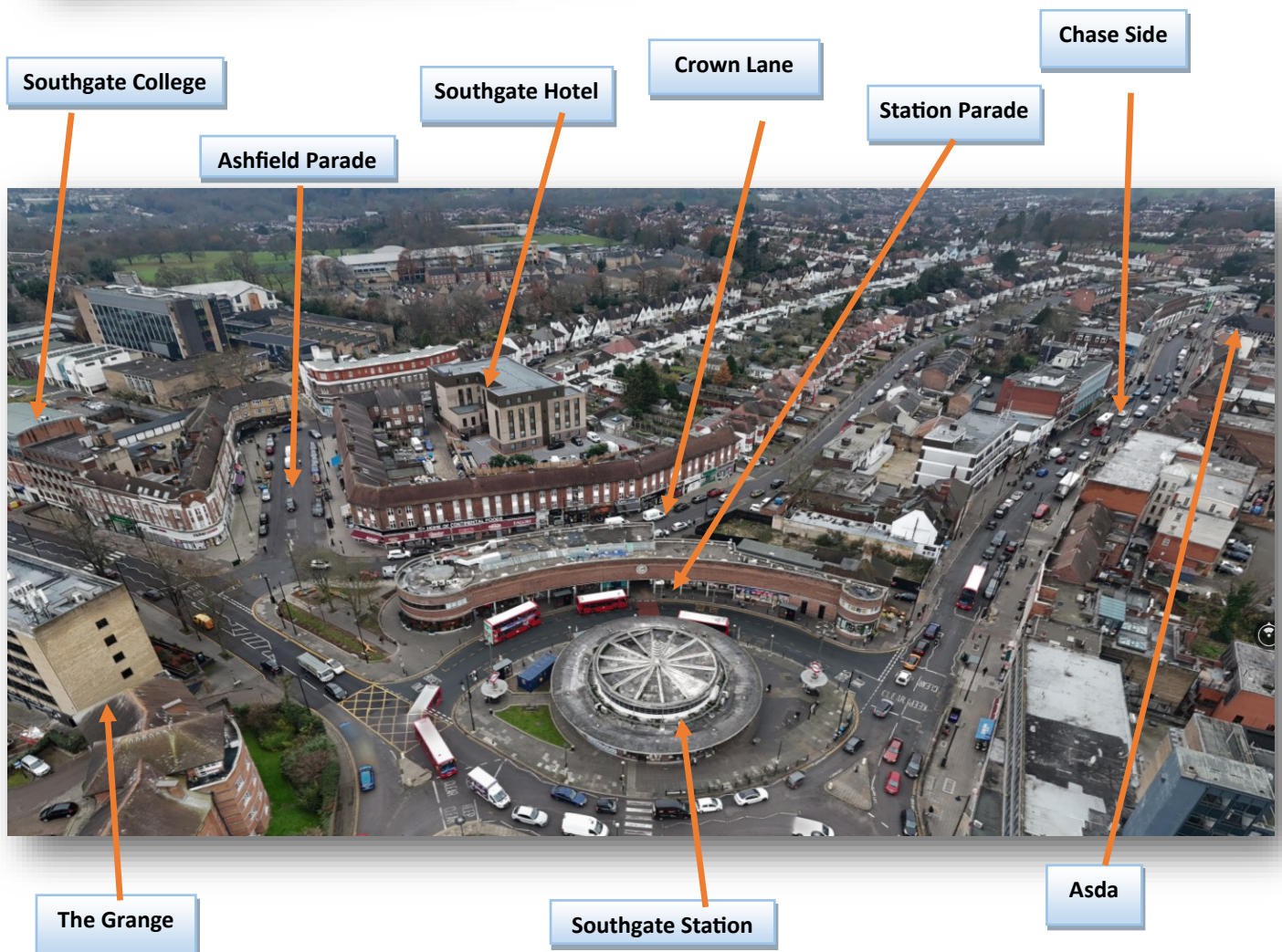
I have got to a point where I have so many more pictures and rather than leaving them out, I have included them, mainly to avoid witnessing them disappearing for ever into obscurity. I hope you will forgive the random nature of their inclusion but sometime in the future people may look at these and marvel how an area can develop and change so completely



One can imagine that when this was taken no-one had any concept of how Southgate would look in the future



The local aerial shots that follow give a very different aspect to how Southgate has developed over many years



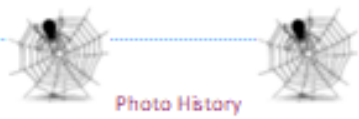


Photo History

Once again I have put in a few markers so it is easier to work out where the locations

Groveland's Park

Palmers Green

Leigh Hunt Drive on the site off The Grange and then Minchenden School

Hobart House, formerly Odeon Cinema

The Bourne

Queen Elizabeth's Drive

Wynchgate

Winchmore Hill Road

Chase Road

Piccadilly Line tube from Southgate to Oakwood

Southgate Leisure Centre

Marks & Spencer

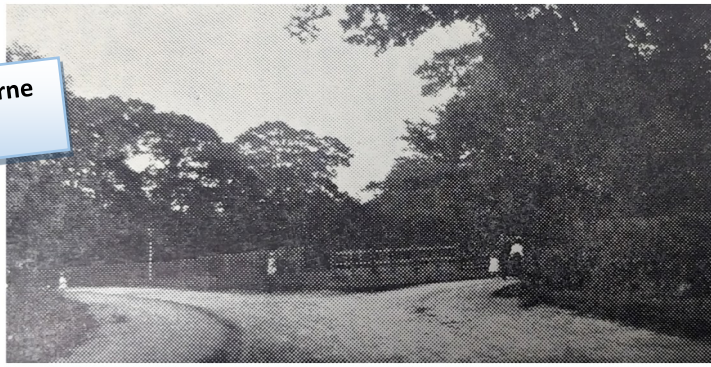
Winchmore Hill Road





Photo Hist

The Pound in Bourne Hill



Wades Hill once was a pleasant country Lane with steep hills rising from the brook with pleasant footpaths on either side. The bends were removed later. This also happened to Bourne Hill between The Woodman and Chase Side Corner (where the tube is now)



Another lovely shot of The Woodman in Bourne Hill



Southgate, near Bowes Road (approx. where the tube goes over The North Circular now)

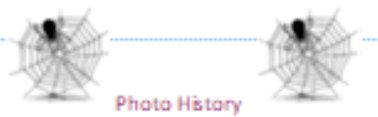


Photo History

From here on you will find some more fascinating local shots but not in a 'sorted' order...apologies... but sometimes it's fun just to come across a familiar location from a earlier time



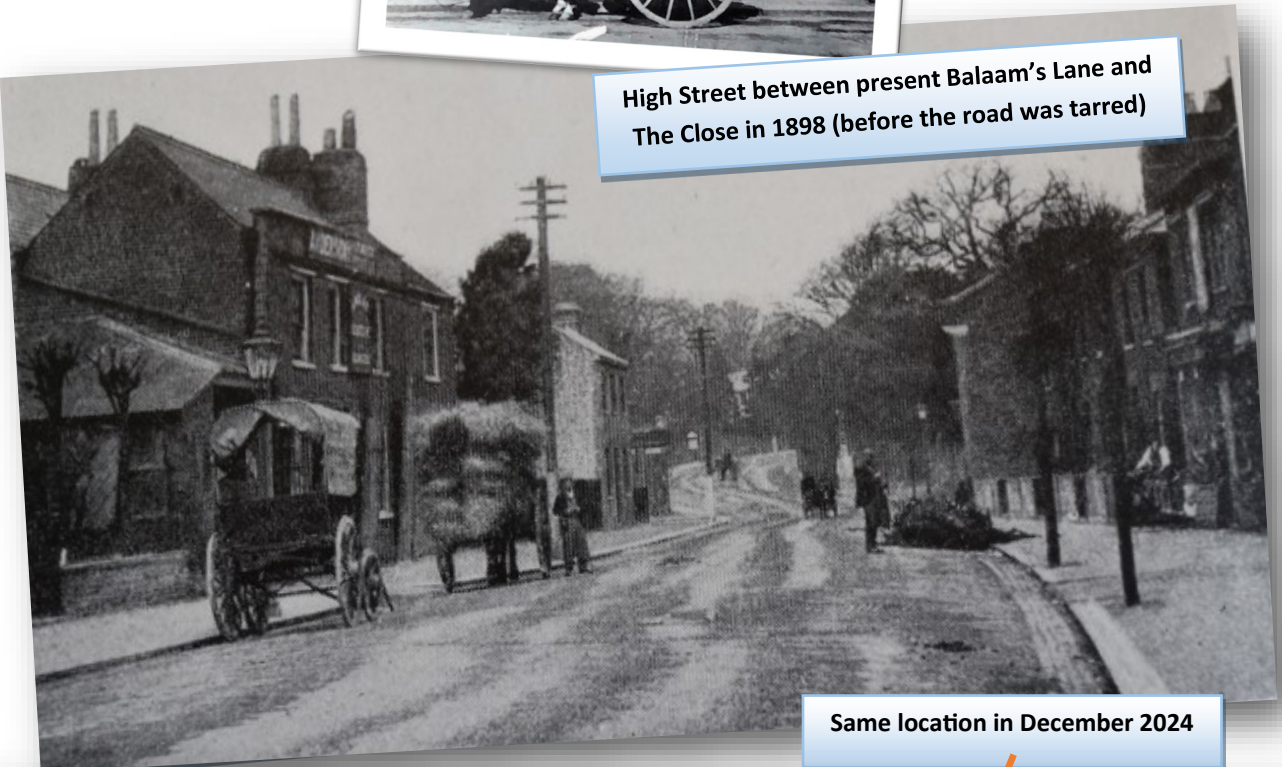
Enfield Council recently delivered the Southgate Pocket Park, an upgraded green area that has added new seating and planting. Last week we were joined by Enfield Council's Cabinet Member for Climate Action and Placemaking Cllr Sabri Ozaydin, members of Friends of Enfield Chase and students from Palmers Green High School to plant small shrubs and flowers.

Everyone got their gloves on and trowels ready to plant more than 250 plants across the Pocket Park. Thank you to everyone who got involved and helped deliver this revitalised green space!





High Street between present Balaam's Lane and The Close in 1898 (before the road was tarred)



Same location in December 2024





Winchmore Hill woods (now Broad Walk and part of Groveland's Park) had a delightful footpath from Bourne Hill to Winchmore Hill Green . This Keeper's cottage was about half way along (see the Green).



Just inside the park on the footpath



Just inside the park on the footpath

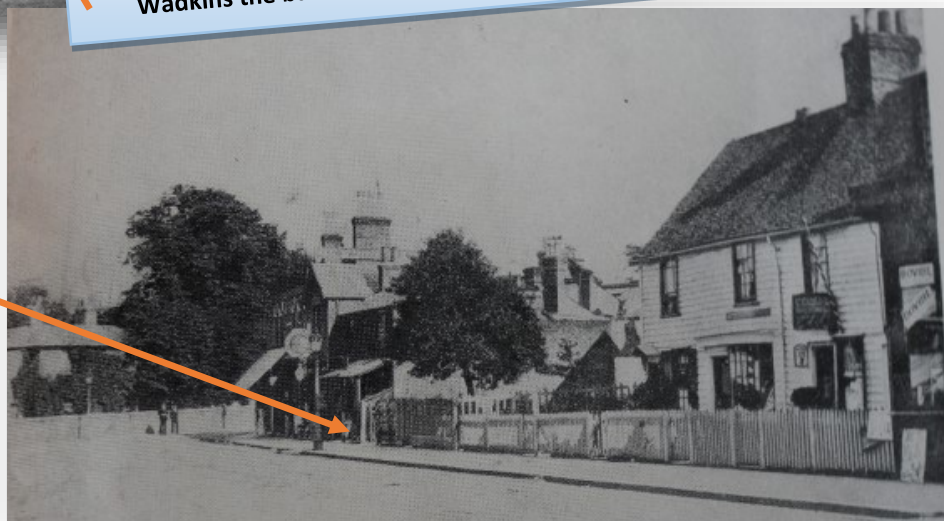


Mounted police by The Woodman in Bourne Hill in 1906



Chase Side in the early part of the last century. C. W Dennis replaced William Wadkins the barbers . Note the policeman with the traditional helmet

Chase Side Southgate. The current Station Parade backs on to this site. W.Wadkins barber shop is also shown here



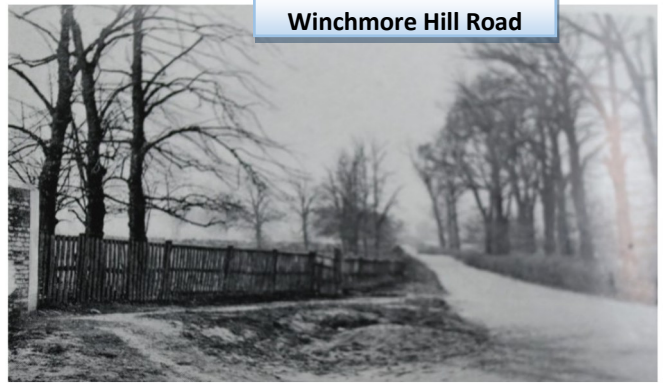
Chase Side 1875



1987



Winchmore Hill Road



Southgate House in the 1970's—Coach House with dormitories for male servants and grooms above



The original Woolpack in The High Street



Southgate House seen from the ha-ha



This octagonal dairy with ventilation turret was added to the north eastern end of Southgate House in the 1790's

The Cherry Tree, High Street c 1923



Chase Side Southgate c 1906



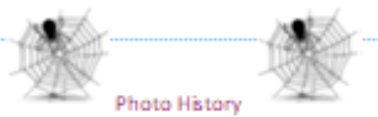
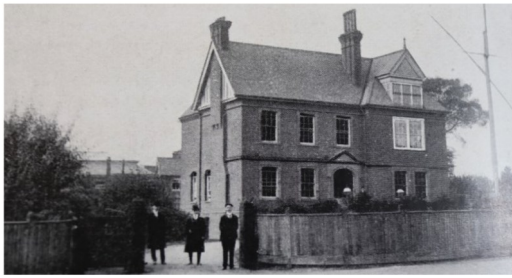


Photo History

The first offices of The Southgate Urban District Council were erected here in 1883



Chase Side Southgate



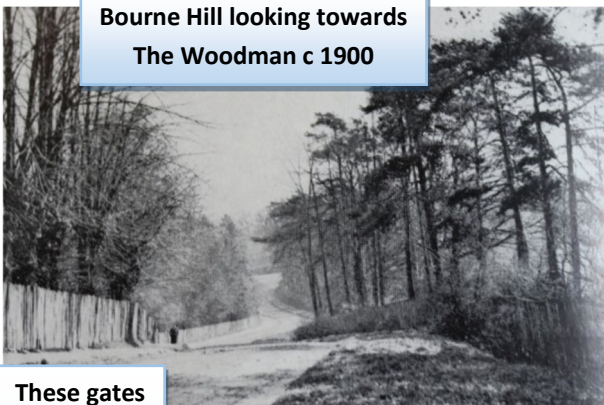
Chase Side c 1875



Grovelands House c 1900



Bourne Hill looking towards
The Woodman c 1900



Southgate Post sorting Office
is now on this nursery site



These gates
now at
Groveland's
Park were
originally the
Village Gates
to Broom-
field Park



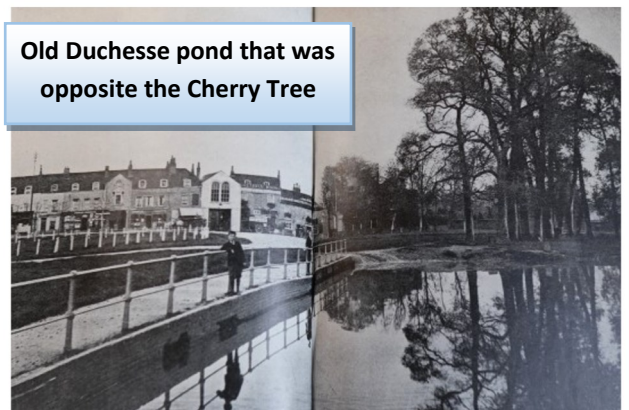
Southgate Circus c 1933 before the
roundabout was constructed



Southgate Green c1870

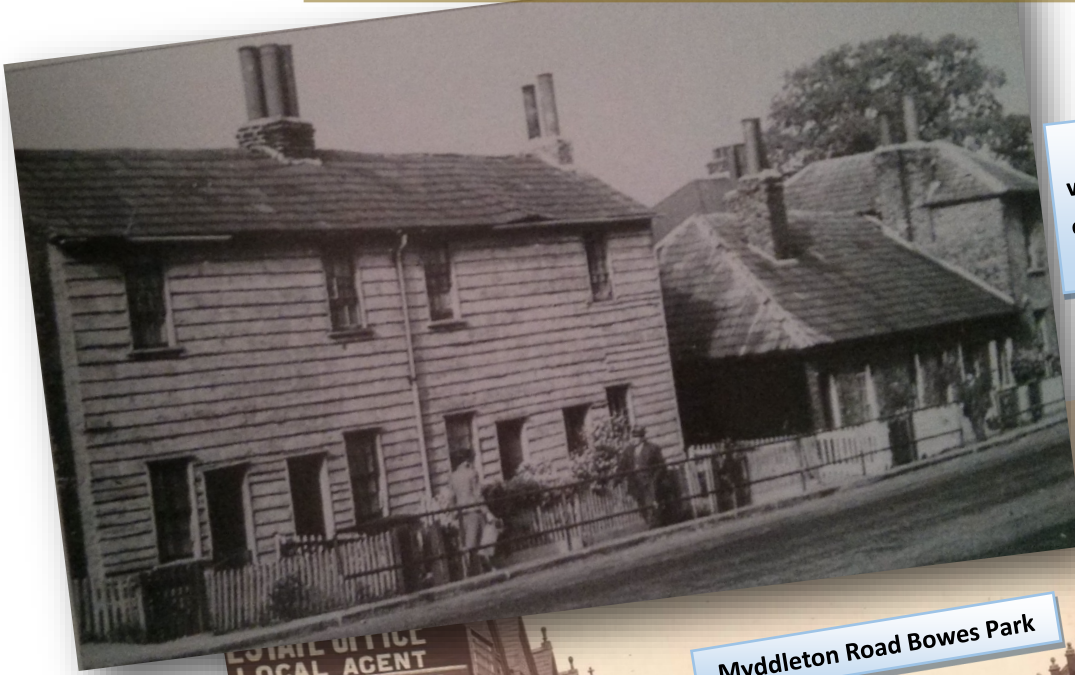


Old Duchesse pond that was
opposite the Cherry Tree

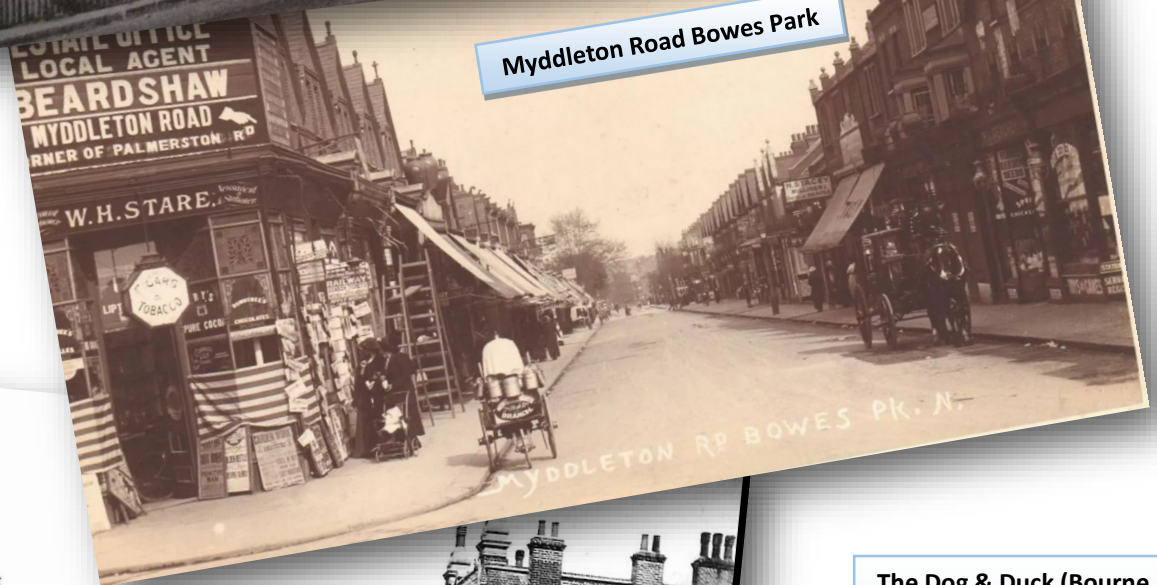




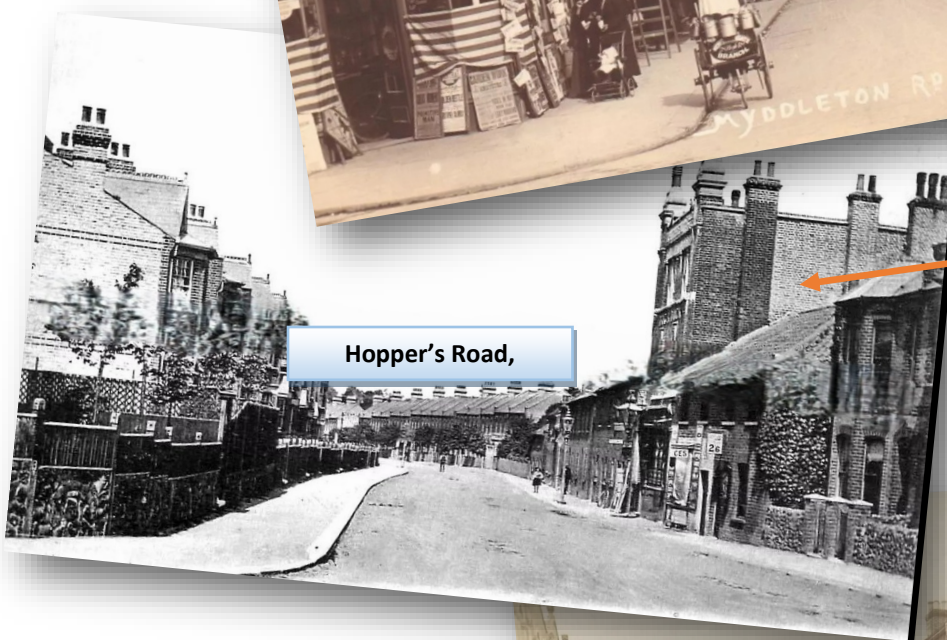
I realise that the following three pages are not strictly Southgate but I guess many folk looking at these three volumes will also remember some of these locations



In 1852 Barrows Cottages were built on the North Side of Winchmore Hill road with Hope Cottage on the right



Myddleton Road Bowes Park

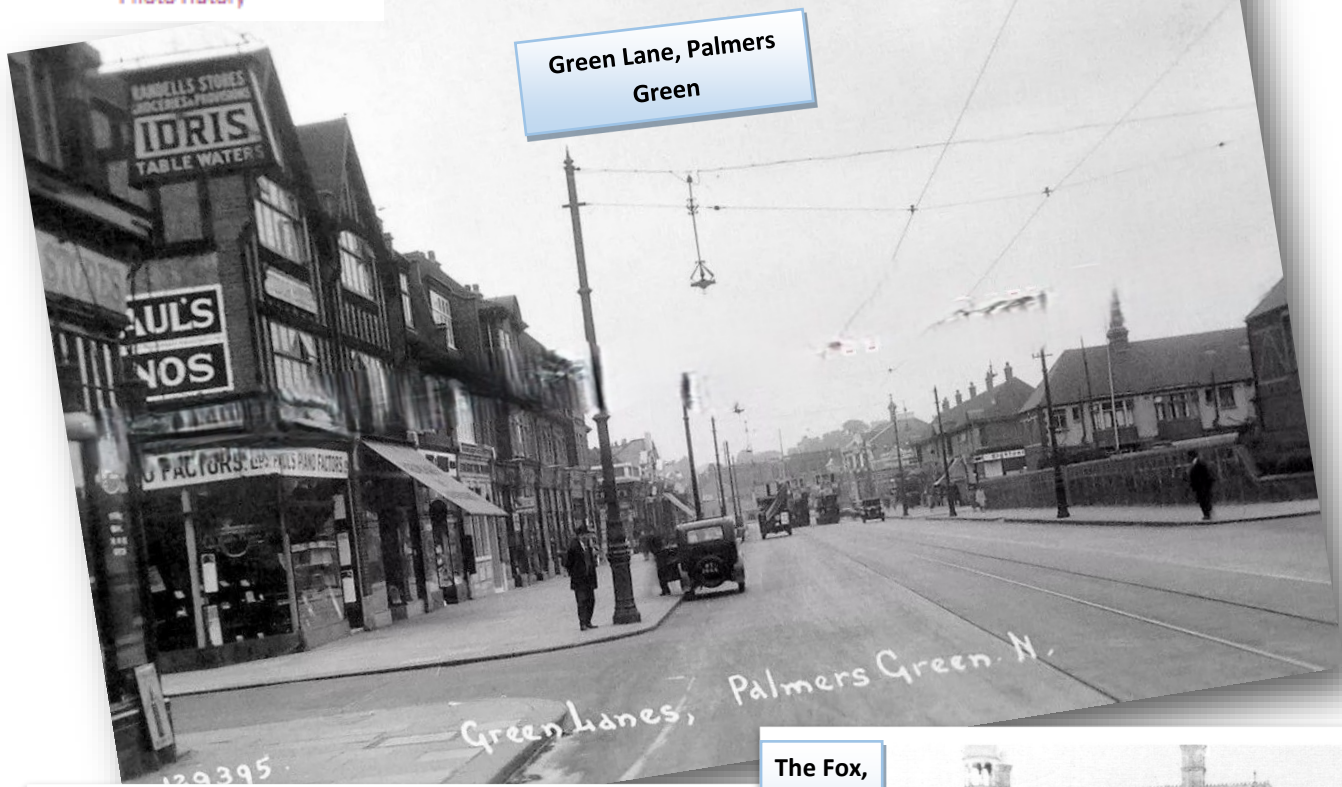


Hopper's Road,

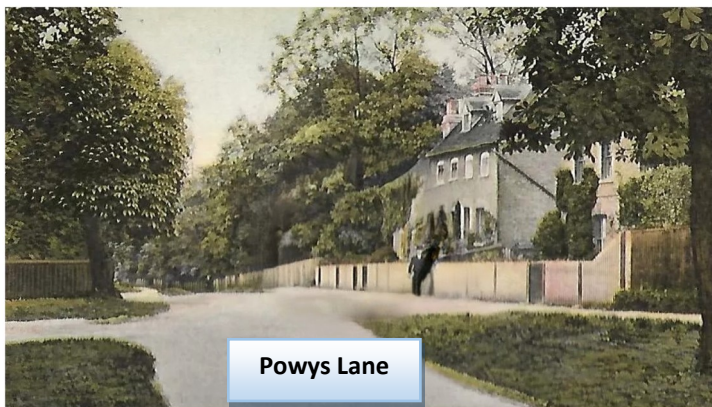
The Dog & Duck (Bourne Hill) was originally called Dog & Duck Lane

High Road, New Southgate





Green Lane, Palmers Green



Powys Lane

The Fox, Palmers Green



The Triangle, Palmers Green

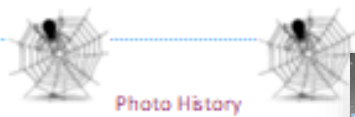
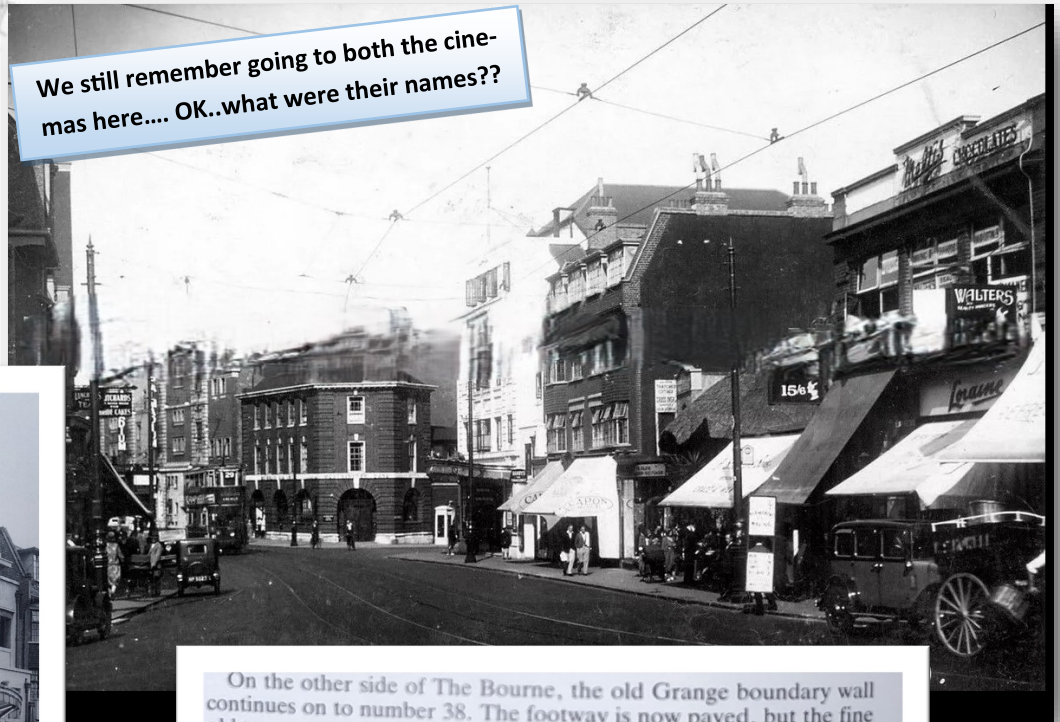


Photo History

We still remember going to both the cinemas here.... OK..what were their names??

...well remembered ..this was the Queens just before it closed in the 1960's..what was the other one called?



On the other side of The Bourne, the old Grange boundary wall continues on to number 38. The footway is now paved, but the fine old trees remind us of years gone by.

Opposite Wynchgate, we can see 'Bourneside' written quite plainly on one of the brick piers which at one time marked the entrance to the house of that name. It was the home of John Miles, who lived nearly all his 86 years in Southgate, the last 50 of them at Bourneside, before his death in 1921. He was closely associated with the public life of the locality.

The mention of lost cinemas usually prompts feelings of nostalgia and affection. We can still remember the queues outside, the one and inepence that bought us our seat, and the special 'smell' the Odeon ad (each cinema seemed to have its own individual aroma). We still remember the marvellous films of the thirties, forties and fifties and the great stars of those eras. There was always something special about a night at the pictures and the cinemas that held our dreams. The Odeon was no exception.

In common with most others, we were all keen on the cinema in our family. Regularly, regardless of programme, Mum and Dad would take us to the Capitol on Monday nights (just a stroll up Farm Road) and to the Odeon on Friday nights. It was great entertainment. No television then. Just listening to the wireless and 'going to the flicks'. The films and the great stars of this era are so clearly etched in my mind, but I must not expound further, for you, the reader, will have your own special memories.

Cinema nostalgia



The Old Park Gates (at Broomfield Park presumably before they were moved to Groveland's Park?)



Old Park Gates, Palmers Green N.



An electric tramcar at The Green Dragon in 1907



Photo History



J. Salmon (Lyons)

United Dairies

Midland Bank

Boots

Bank (National Provincial?)



Look at the names...This is on The Broadway opposite the tube station.



High Street, Southgate



Collins Bros Butchers, and the Crown Hotel rebuilt in 1895 and demolished in 1963



The Rising Sun

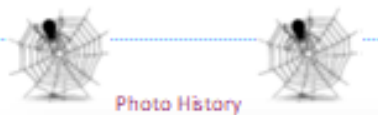
1961



1970



1973



Sorry to end on this note but maybe I shouldn't view everything with rose-tinted glasses and face up to reality



This is the end of the three volumes of Southgate. I do hope you enjoyed the pictures and got as much pleasure out of thumbing through them as I got putting them all together. Apologies for any mistakes , but I am happy to receive your corrections

RMK Dec. '24